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~~S E C R E T EYES ONLY~~ CITE CAS SAIGON 2439
FOR STATE, DOD, JCS AND CIA
HONOLULU FOR CINCPAC [redacted]
JOINT EMBASSY, MACV, CAS MESSAGE
REF DEPTEL 570

EO 12958
3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs
(C)

1. THIS IS THE THIRD OF THREE MESSAGES IN RESPONSE REFERENCE AND DEALS WITH SUPPORT OF NVN OPERATIONS.

2. REFERENCE DICTATES THAT MACV AND CAS CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND TO THE AMBASSADOR WHETHER NORTH VIETNAM OPERATIONS SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED BY CAS TO MACV IN WHOLE OR IN PART. THIS MATTER HAS BEEN UNDER STUDY BY THESE TWO ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE MADE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS IN WHICH AMBASSADOR LODGE CONCURS:

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A. IF THE PROGRAM IS TO CONTINUE AT SUBSTANTIALLY ITS PRESENT LEVEL AND UNDER CURRENT POLICY ORIENTATION, THE PROGRAM SHOULD REMAIN UNDER CAS SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE. IT WILL REQUIRE CONTINUED AND EXPANDED MACV SUPPORT.

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[redacted] EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)

B. IF THE PROGRAM IS TO BE EXPANDED IN SCOPE AND IN POLICY ORIENTATION TO THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL VISUALIZED IN THE CINCPAC 33 AND 34 PLAN SERIES AND IF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT A REDUCTION OF PLAUSIBLE DENIAL TO A LEVEL OF DISCREET OVERT OPERATIONS, AND TRANSFER CAN BE RECONCILED TO MACV PHASE-OUT, IT IS DEEMED FEASIBLE AND IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST TO TRANSFER THE PROGRAM FROM CAS TO MACV. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, CAS PERSONNEL WOULD PHASE OUT THE PROGRAM OVER A SIX-MONTH PERIOD FROM THE DATE OF APPROVAL. CAS WOULD CONTINUE SUPPORT OF MACV IN CERTAIN SPECIALIZED AREAS.

C. [redacted] EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs (C)

3. WE ARE PREPARED TO OUTLINE IMPLEMENTING PROCEDURES AND AMPLIFYING DETAILS APPLICABLE TO COURSE B ABOVE DURING THE 20 NOVEMBER HONO CONFERENCE.

GP-1

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